

1 - 6 (canceled)

7. (new) A method of improving performance of a computer system, comprising:

- (a) specifying a threshold;
- (b) determining the number of modified entries in a cache memory;
- (c) evicting, from the cache memory, at least one of the modified entries, when the number of modified entries in the cache memory exceeds the threshold;
- (d) measuring the rate of cache-to-cache transfers;
- (e) changing the value of the threshold;
- (f) repeating steps (b) and (c); and
- (g) determining whether the rate of cache-to-cache transfers has changed.

8. (new) A method of improving performance of a computer system, comprising:

- (a) specifying a threshold;
- (b) determining the number of modified entries in a cache memory;
- (c) evicting, from the cache memory, at least one of the modified entries, when the number of modified entries in the cache memory exceeds the threshold;
- (d) measuring how many evicted entries are accessed during a predetermined time span;
- (e) changing the value of the threshold;
- (f) repeating steps (b) and (c); and
- (g) determining whether the number of evicted entries that have been accessed during the predetermined time span has changed.

9. (new) A method of improving performance of a computer system, comprising:

- (a) specifying a threshold;
- (b) determining, in a cache memory, the number of modified entries that were received in a cache-to-cache transfer;
- (c) evicting, from the cache memory, at least one of the modified entries that were received in a cache-to-cache transfer, when the number of modified entries that were received in a cache-to-cache transfer in the cache memory exceeds the threshold;
- (d) measuring at least one performance parameter;
- (e) changing the value of the threshold;
- (f) repeating steps (b), (c), and (d); and
- (g) determining whether the performance parameter has changed.